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Work and Workers.

FOR some time there have been questions as to what to do with the Reformed Church *Quarterly Review*. At last the Board of Editors, headed by Dr. T. G. Apple, has resigned, and at one time it was thought inevitable that the *Review* would be discontinued. It has, however, been decided by the church to reestablish it, and Dr. William Rupp, professor in the seminary at Lancaster, Pa., has accepted the editorship.

THE Chicago Society of Biblical Research held its first meeting of the season, being the thirteenth regular session, on Saturday November 21st, at the Sherman House in Chicago. The following four papers were read and discussed: The New Israel-Tablet, by Dr. J. H. Breasted, of The University of Chicago; Hebrew Proper Names containing the Divine Element, found on Babylonian Tablets, by Professor Albert T. Clay, Ph.D.; Jewish Communistic Ideals, by Dr. Thomas C. Hall; Note on Matt. 28:19, by Professor H. M. Scott, D.D., of the Chicago Theological Seminary.

THE *Quarterly Statement* of the Palestine Exploration Fund for October contains the tenth report, by Dr. F. J. Bliss, of his excavations in Jerusalem. He here describes his discovery of a very remarkable stone stairway, which forms part of a road leading down to the city from the Pool of Siloam. The steps, thirty-four in number, are made of well-jointed stones, and are polished by much footwear. It is impossible not to connect this discovery with the statement in Nehemiah (3:15) that Shallum repaired the gate of the fountain, the wall of the Pool of Siloam, by the King's Garden, "and unto the stairs that go down from the City of David."

A DETAILED account has been published by Dr. Giovanni Mercati of his recent discovery of a portion of the Hexapla of Origen. The palimpsest fragments contain the following psalms (the numbering being that of the Septuagint): 17:26-48; 27:6-9; 28:1-3; 29 entire; 30:1-10, 20-25; 31:6-11; 34:1, 2, 13-28; 36:1-5; 45 entire; 48:1-6, 11-15; 88:26-53. The MS. is in minuscules of the tenth century, and the text stands in the original arrangement, only the Hebrew column being missing. In the five parallel columns we have first the Hebrew transliterated into the Greek, then the four Greek versions in the order Aquila, Symmachus, Septuagint, and Theodotion. The material will be edited and soon published by its discoverer. From the Hebrew text in Greek letters we are able to get a good idea of the pronuncia-

tion of Hebrew as Origen was accustomed to hear it in the third century; and the possession of some continuous passages in the versions of Aquila, Symmachus, and Theodotion is a matter of considerable importance.

PROFESSOR GEORGE M. POST, M.D., of the Syrian Protestant College, Beirût, Syria, has been engaged for over a dozen years in the preparation of a *Flora of Syria, Palestine, and Sinai*. The work is now ready for issue. It consists of 920 pages, with a description of all the Phænogamous plants, and the Acrogens, of the district extending from the Taurus to Ras Muhammad, and from the Mediterranean to the borders of the Syrian and Arabian Desert. It embraces 126 orders, 850 genera and 3416 species, many of the latter, as well as numerous varieties, being new to science. It is illustrated by 445 woodcuts, and colored map, showing the botanical regions of the district covered. It contains a general analytical key to all the orders, and special keys to the larger tribes and genera. Much labor has been expended on these keys, and it is hoped that, by their means, the usefulness of the book will be greatly increased, especially for students and travelers. Those scriptural plants which can be identified with any degree of certainty are noted in the text. The Arabic names, even the most trivial, have been carefully collected. Only a small edition is printed, and the book can only be obtained on the price of one guinea sent to Professor Post.

IN a recently published discussion of The Scope of the Seminary Curriculum Professor B. B. Warfield, of Princeton Theological Seminary, gives a table exhibiting the time devoted to the several branches of theological study in seven of the leading seminaries of this country and one in Edinburgh. This is so interesting as to be worthy of reproduction here :

	Edin- burgh	Prince- ton	Auburn	Western	Mc- Cormick	S. Fran- cisco	Yale ¹	Andover ¹
Hebrew philology, -	...	150	120	120	120	180	...	...
Propædæutics, -	...	...	15	...	...	...	30	...
Apologetics, -	240	180	...	...	180	180	...	...
Exegetics, -	(480)	(510)	(315)	(510)	(600)	(450)	(645) ²	(751) ²
{ Old Test., -	240	210	60	240	240	150	345 ²	411 ²
{ New Test., -	240	180	240	270	240	300	300	340
{ Bib. Theol., -	...	120	...	...	120	...	...	...
Historics, -	240	180	210	180	180	120	180	136
Systematics, -	240	180	225	180	210	180	270 ³	210 ³
Ecclesiastics, -	280	210	300	210	270	180	270	386
Practice, -	...	180	...	...	...	180	...	...
Totals, -	1480	1590	1185	1200	1560	1290	1395	1475

In reference to this, Professor Warfield says: "Such a general practical agreement as is here exhibited will go far toward proving that we are on the right track. I think the general principle that ought to govern us is that the

¹ Catalogue of 1892-3. ² Including Hebrew philology. ³ Including apologetics.

seven departments of Apologetics, Old Testament Literature and Exegesis, New Testament Literature and Exegesis, Historics, Systematics, Ecclesiastics, and Actual Practice make about equal claim upon our time and effort. If we can manage to add a chair of biblical theology, its own importance and its organic relation to exegesis on one side and to systematics on the other will justify a generous assignment of time to it. Hebrew philology must be accepted meanwhile as a necessary evil and full provision made for it. And I think some brief time ought to be given to general theological encyclopedia or propædeutics—a subject for which at present few seminaries seem to make formal provision, though of course in one way or another it receives attention in all."

It is a good indication of the new interest in biblical study that colleges are giving their students opportunity for systematic work in the Old and New Testaments. In this respect Brown University is among the leaders. In the elementary courses in Hebrew, Arabic, and Assyrian, effort is made to give the student a thorough knowledge of the grammatical principles of these languages and to enable him to translate easy prose with facility. The course in historical Hebrew is especially intended for those who have mastered the elements of the language. The aim in it is to give added facility in translation and familiarity with the laws of Hebrew syntax and textual criticism. The minor prophets, Amos, Hosea, and Micah, are studied from an exegetical and historical point of view. In connection with them the fundamental principles of prophecy are also considered.

The work in New Testament Greek is so arranged that students who desire may pursue consecutive courses throughout the year. The gospel of Mark is made the basis for the study of the grammatical and literary peculiarities of the language. Especial attention is given to technical words and terms. In the study of the gospel of Luke the historical questions involved are carefully considered. The Corinthian Epistles are read for the purpose of gaining acquaintance with the terms, expressions, and ideas which have become the framework of Christian thought. Systematic instruction in the literature and history of the Bible is given on the basis of the English version. The intimate relation between the literature and the history of the Bible is borne in mind. In presenting Hebrew history the aim is not only to follow systematically the unfolding of Hebrew life along political, social, and religious lines, but also to introduce the student to the literature of the Old Testament in its proper setting. The sources for each period are collected and analyzed. While the study is critical, it is also emphatically constructive.

The life of Jesus is similarly studied to gain a definite and true conception of its chief events and their significance in the light of their historic background.

The course on the wisdom literature, considering the character,

methods, and work of the wise men of ancient Israel, gives opportunity for discussing Hebrew ethical and philosophic thought in general.

All the courses in this department are open to graduate students. Additional courses are arranged for any having the necessary preparation who desire to do advanced work.

HEBREW.

1, 2. *Hebrew Accidence*. Harper's Manual and Elements. Three hours. First and second terms. Elective for juniors, seniors, and graduates.

3. *Hebrew Accidence continued*. Reading, in the original, of passages selected from the Books of Samuel, with study of Hebrew syntax and textual criticism. Driver's Notes. Three hours. Third term. Elective for juniors and seniors.

4. *Minor Prophets of the Assyrian Period*. Critical translation and interpretation in the light of the history of the times. Three hours. Second term. Elective for juniors, seniors, and graduates.

5. *Hebrew History*. From the settlement in Canaan to the disruption. Based on the revised version, statements from the monuments, and information furnished by modern Palestine and its life. Recitations, informal lectures, and supplementary reading. Three hours. First term. Elective for juniors, seniors, and graduates.

6. *Hebrew History continued*. From the disruption to the exile. Especial attention to the character and work of the prophets. Three hours. Second term. Elective for juniors, seniors, and graduates.

7. *Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament*. Proverbs, Job, Song of Songs, and Ecclesiastes. Analysis of contents, date, and authorship. Three hours. Third term. Elective for juniors, seniors, and graduates.

Courses 5 to 7, inclusive, require no knowledge of Hebrew, and any one may be taken independently of the other two.

ARABIC.

1, 2, 3. *Grammar and Reading*. Lansing's Manual. Selected Suras from the Koran. One hour. Through the year. Elective for juniors, seniors, and graduates.

ASSYRIAN.

1, 2, 3. *The Elements*. Lyon's Manual. One hour. Through the year. Elective for juniors, seniors, and graduates.

4, 5. *Historical Inscriptions of Sennacherib and Esarhaddon*. One hour. First and second terms. Elective for juniors, seniors, and graduates.

NEW TESTAMENT LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE.

1. *The Gospel of Mark*. Critical translation. Study of linguistic peculiarities and text criticism. Three hours. First term. Elective for juniors, seniors, and graduates.

2. *The Gospel of Luke*. Rapid reading. Study of the contents in the light of the history. Three hours. Second term. Elective for juniors, seniors, and graduates.

3. *Paul's Corinthian Epistles*. Rapid reading. Analysis of thought. Study of the Pauline teaching. Three hours. Third term. Elective for juniors, seniors, and graduates.

4. *The Life of Jesus*. In English. Stevens and Burton's Harmony. Systematic study of the events in their geographical and historical relations. Three hours. Third term. Elective for juniors, seniors, and graduates.

DR. EDMUND BUCKLEY, of The University of Chicago, is undertaking the direction of a movement which promises to be of great interest and benefit to many persons who have hitherto been unable to enjoy the advantage of careful instruction in the field of the study of religion. Under the auspices of the University Association, an incorporated body organized for the purpose of carrying on the work of the World's Congresses of the Columbian Exposition, he is announced as editor of a course of lessons in Comparative Religion. It will be prepared strictly within the law prescribed for the government of the Parliament of Religions. Each religion will be represented in the following way: (1) An account by a competent and eminent representative of the faith, a native writer when possible. (2) A brief statement by a competent person of the biography and environment of this native writer. (3) A scientific account of the religion, giving the religion consideration from the point of view of objective science, which seeks to understand and estimate each religion in the light of all. The course will include a general introduction, and the following leading topics: Religion of savage and semi-civilized races; Religion of the Mongolians; Religion of the Indo-Kelts; Religions of the Semites; Christianity; The Science and Philosophy of Religion. Full and careful quotations will be made from the respective scriptures of the various religions. Summaries and selections of special value will be made from the various books of the Old and New Testament. Special articles will be given on different methods of interpretation, doctrines of inspiration, religious archaeology and chronology, the higher criticism, sacred symbolism, the harmonies of science and religion, ethics and religion. While Dr. Buckley is editor-in-chief, the various topics will be assigned to specialists. The material will be published in the organ of the University Association called *Progress*. The expense for the course, which consists of twelve monthly numbers of the journal, is \$3.75. We shall follow the undertaking with much interest.